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Persons Who Died in 1901," "General Statistics," "Financial Statistics," "Railroad Mileage," "Corn and Wheat Crops," "Armaments of the Nations," "Immigration into the United States," "Religious Statistics." There are good maps (*a*) of the Philippine Islands; (*b*) of central and southern Africa; (*c*) of China, Japan, and Korea. There are fifty-three illustrations, nearly all full-page, and the majority of them excellent pictures of persons prominent during the year 1901. The editor had the assistance of sixteen men named as "The Advisory Council." But for a single circumstance, I should say without hesitation that the advice of these men must have increased the value of the book.

It is safe to say that if we had a census of the people who do now or ever will take an interest in the year 1901, we should have the exact number of persons who would feel able to point out inclusions of the less worthy and omissions of the more worthy. I have not yet been able to examine the volume carefully enough to make out my own bill of particulars. Whether I am able later to locate important over- or under-sights, I am satisfied that the history must be accepted on demand as a sheer necessity for everybody who has occasion to refer to recent events. I cannot see how any editorial office, except of the patent-inside variety, can do without it. I already feel toward it very much as I do toward the index that changed my pamphlets from rubbish to equipment. That every reference library must have the series goes without saying. Dr. Cuppy should have the hearty gratitude of every literary worker.

A. W. S.

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*A Modern Utopia.* By H. G. WELLS. Pp. xii + 393. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50 net.

The visible use of utopias is to make readers temporarily forget their present grievances, and contemplate the program of revolt which they would promote if the imaginary conditions were realized. Nothing is more obnoxious to present human nature than a presumption of social conditions fixed beyond chance of change.

Mr. Wells hardly reckons on being understood as having completed plans and specifications of a perfect world. Like most utopists, he has indicated a series of modifications which in his opinion would increase the aggregate of human happiness. Since tastes differ, it is always an open question whether the result in practice would increase

or diminish satisfaction. Few of us would deny that there is room for improvement in the management of hotels, but we are not all agreed that the use of a single language would be either cause or effect of wholly desirable social conditions. Few of us would deny that the people of the world should get together in a thousand ways not at present practicable. Not many of us can entertain without a shudder the thought of actually averaging ourselves in a mechanical federation of the world. We all believe in improving governmental efficiency. Most of us would prefer a régime of drum-head courts to a reign of such priggism as the officials in Mr. Wells's picture exhibit. As a rhetorical device for getting attention for social theorems that would attract no notice in the abstract, utopias may still be available. We can discover nothing in this sample, however, that goes beyond good-natured satire of conditions which none would be so poor as to defend.

A. W. S.

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*The Labor Movement in America.* By RICHARD T. ELY. New Edition, revised and enlarged. New York: The Macmillan Co. Pp. xvi + 399.

Although this book is nearly twenty years old, it is still timely, and it is to be hoped that the author will be able to carry out his purpose of enlarging its scope, and bringing the history down to date. At present we have no book that could be a satisfactory substitute for Professor Ely's volume.

A. W. S.